

We claim:

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1. The use of phyllosilicates for improving the chemicals resistance, reducing the swelling, and improving the stress-cracking resistance of styrene copolymers.
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2. The use as claimed in claim 1, wherein the chemicals resistance is improved with respect to chemicals selected from alcohols, C₃-C₈ alkanes, gasoline, premium gasoline, diesel, halogenated hydrocarbons, hypochlorite salts, and sodium dichloroisocyanate dihydrate.
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3. The use as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the phyllosilicates used have been selected from kaolinite types, serpentine types, pyrophyllite, and silicates of mica type, and mica.
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4. The use as claimed in any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the styrene copolymers have been built up from components A, C, and, where appropriate, B, D, and E, using:
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- a: as component A, from 20 to 100% by weight, based on the entirety of components A + B, of a hard component made from one or more copolymers of styrene and/or α -methylstyrene with acrylonitrile, the proportion of acrylonitrile being from 10 to 50% by weight,
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- b: from 0 to 80% by weight, based on the entirety of components A + B, of at least one graft copolymer B made from
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- b1: as component B1, from 10 to 90% by weight of at least one elastomeric particulate graft base with a glass transition temperature below 0°C, and
- b2: as component B2, from 10 to 90% by weight of at least one graft made from polystyrene or from a copolymer of styrene and/or α -methylstyrene with acrylonitrile, the proportion of acrylonitrile being from 10 to 50% by weight,
- where the entirety of the components A + B used is from 10 to 100 parts by weight, based on the total weight of the components used,
- c: as component C, from 0.05 to 5 parts by weight, based on the total weight of the components used, of a phyllosilicate,

- d: as component D, from 0 to 90 parts by weight, based on the total weight of the components used, of at least one polycarbonate, and
- e: as component E, from 0 to 20 parts by weight, based on the total weight of the components used, of other conventional auxiliaries and fillers.

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5. The use as claimed in claim 4, wherein the proportion of acrylonitrile in components A, and, where appropriate, B2 of the styrene copolymers is less than 28% by weight, based on each appropriate component.

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6. The use as claimed in claim 4, wherein the proportion of acrylonitrile is from 18 to 27% by weight.

7. A thermoplastic molding composition built up from components A, C, and, where appropriate, B, D and E, as claimed in claim 5 or 6.

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8. A process for preparing styrene polymers with improved chemicals resistance, built up from components A, C, and, where appropriate, B, D, and E, as claimed in any of claims 4 to 6, which comprises separately preparing A, C, and, where appropriate, B, D, and E, combining component A with component C, and intimately mixing and then extruding the same with components B, D, and E, as appropriate.

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1. The first step is to identify the key components of the system. This involves understanding the hardware, software, and data involved.

$$A^{\text{th}} A_1 >$$